

IC 25-23.6-8

Chapter 8. Certification; Examinations

IC 25-23.6-8-1

Application; requirements

Sec. 1. An individual who applies for a license as a marriage and family therapist must meet the following requirements:

(1) Furnish satisfactory evidence to the board that the individual has:

(A) received a master's or doctor's degree in marriage and family therapy, or in a related area as determined by the board from an institution of higher education that meets the requirements under section 2.1(a)(1) of this chapter or from a foreign school that has a program of study that meets the requirements under section 2.1(a)(2) or (2.1)(a)(3) of this chapter; and

(B) completed the educational requirements under section 2.5 of this chapter.

(2) Furnish satisfactory evidence to the board that the individual does not have a conviction for a crime that has a direct bearing on the individual's ability to practice competently.

(3) Furnish satisfactory evidence to the board that the individual has not been the subject of a disciplinary action by a licensing or certification agency of another state or jurisdiction on the grounds that the individual was not able to practice as a marriage and family therapist without endangering the public.

(4) Pass an examination provided by the board.

(5) Pay the fee established by the board.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.33-1993, SEC.42; P.L.147-1997, SEC.61.

IC 25-23.6-8-2 Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.147-1997, SEC.75.)

IC 25-23.6-8-2.1

Requirements for institution attended by applicant

Sec. 2.1. (a) An applicant under section 1 of this chapter must have received a master's or doctor's degree in marriage and family therapy, or in a related area as determined by the board, from an institution of higher education that meets the following requirements:

(1) If the institution was located in the United States or a territory of the United States, at the time of the applicant's graduation the institution was accredited by a regional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation.

(2) If the institution was located in Canada, at the time of the applicant's graduation the institution was a member in good standing with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

(3) If the institution was located in a foreign country other than

Canada, at the time of the applicant's graduation the institution:

(A) was recognized by the government of the country where the school was located as a program to train in the practice of marriage and family therapy or psychotherapy; and

(B) maintained a standard of training substantially equivalent to the standards of institutions accredited by a regional accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation.

(b) An applicant under section 1 of this chapter who has a master's or doctoral degree from a program that did not emphasize marriage and family therapy may complete the coursework requirement from an institution that is:

(1) accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education; and

(2) recognized by the United States Department of Education.

As added by P.L.147-1997, SEC.62.

IC 25-23.6-8-2.5

Educational requirements

Sec. 2.5. (a) An applicant under section 1 of this chapter must complete the following educational requirements:

(1) Except as provided in subsection (b), complete twenty-seven (27) semester hours or forty-one (41) quarter hours of graduate coursework that must include graduate level course credits with material in at least the following content areas:

(A) Theoretical foundations of marriage and family therapy.

(B) Major models of marriage and family therapy.

(C) Individual development.

(D) Family development and family relationships.

(E) Clinical problems.

(F) Collaboration with other disciplines.

(G) Sexuality.

(H) Gender and sexual orientation.

(I) Issues of ethnicity, race, socioeconomic status, and culture.

(J) Therapy techniques.

(K) Behavioral research that focuses on the interpretation and application of research data as it applies to clinical practice.

The content areas may be combined into any one (1) graduate level course, if the applicant can prove that the coursework was devoted to each content area.

(2) Not less than one (1) graduate level course of two (2) semester hours or three (3) quarter hours in the following areas:

(A) Legal, ethical, and professional standards issues in the practice of marriage and family therapy or an equivalent course approved by the board.

(B) Appraisal and assessment for individual or interpersonal disorder or dysfunction.

(3) At least one (1) supervised clinical practicum, internship, or

field experience in a marriage and family counseling setting that meets the following requirements:

(A) The applicant provided five hundred (500) face to face client contact hours of marriage and family therapy services under the supervision of a licensed marriage and family therapist who has at least five (5) years of experience or a qualified supervisor approved by the board.

(B) The applicant received one hundred (100) hours of supervision from a licensed marriage and family therapist who has at least five (5) years experience as a qualified supervisor.

The requirements under subdivisions (A) and (B) may be met by a supervised practice experience that took place away from an institution of higher education but that is certified by an official of the institution of higher education as being equivalent to a graduate level practicum or internship program at an institution accredited by an accrediting agency approved by the United States Department of Education Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Education, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, or the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education.

(b) The following graduate work may not be used to satisfy the content area requirements under subsection (a):

(1) Thesis or dissertation work.

(2) Practicums, internships, or fieldwork.

As added by P.L.147-1997, SEC.63.

IC 25-23.6-8-2.7

Clinical experience requirement

Sec. 2.7. (a) An applicant under section 1 of this chapter must have at least three (3) years of clinical experience, during which at least fifty percent (50%) of the applicant's clients were receiving marriage and family therapy services. Two (2) years of the applicant's clinical experience must include one thousand (1,000) hours of post degree clinical experience and two hundred (200) hours of post degree clinical supervision, of which one hundred (100) hours must be individual supervision, under the supervision of a licensed marriage and family therapist who has at least five (5) years of experience or an equivalent supervisor, as determined by the board.

(b) Within the three (3) years required under subsection (a), the applicant must provide direct individual, group, and family therapy and counseling to the following categories of cases:

(1) Unmarried couples.

(2) Married couples.

(3) Separating or divorcing couples.

(4) Family groups, including children.

(c) A doctoral internship may be applied toward the supervised work experience requirement.

(d) Except as provided in subsection (e), the experience

requirement may be met by work performed at or away from the premises of the supervising marriage and family therapist.

(e) The work requirement may not be performed away from the supervising marriage and family therapist's premises if:

- (1) the work is the independent private practice of marriage and family therapy; and
- (2) the work is not performed at a place that has the supervision of a licensed marriage and family therapist or an equivalent supervisor, as determined by the board.

As added by P.L.147-1997, SEC.64.

IC 25-23.6-8-3

Examination; minimum requirements

Sec. 3. An individual who satisfies the requirements of sections 1 and 2 of this chapter may take the examination provided by the board.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9.

IC 25-23.6-8-4

Examinations; times and places

Sec. 4. The board shall provide for examinations to be given at least once annually at times and places established by the board.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9.

IC 25-23.6-8-5

Issuance of license

Sec. 5. The board shall issue a license to an individual who:

- (1) achieves a passing score, as determined by the board, on the examination provided under this chapter; and
- (2) is otherwise qualified under this article.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.147-1997, SEC.65.

IC 25-23.6-8-6

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.33-1993, SEC.74.)

IC 25-23.6-8-7

Repealed

(Repealed by P.L.33-1993, SEC.74.)

IC 25-23.6-8-8

Duration of license; renewal

Sec. 8. (a) A license issued by the board is valid for the remainder of the renewal period in effect on the date the license was issued.

(b) An individual may renew a license by:

- (1) paying a renewal fee on or before the expiration date of the license; and
- (2) completing not less than fifteen (15) hours of continuing education each licensure year.

(c) If an individual fails to pay a renewal on or before the expiration date of a license, the license becomes invalid.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.147-1997, SEC.66.

IC 25-23.6-8-9

Reinstatement of invalid license

Sec. 9. (a) The board may reinstate an invalid license up to three (3) years after the expiration date of the license if the individual holding the invalid license meets the requirements under IC 25-1-8-6.

(b) If more than three (3) years have elapsed since the date a license expired, the individual holding the license may renew the license by satisfying the requirements for renewal established by the board and meeting the requirements under IC 25-1-8-6.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.147-1997, SEC.67; P.L.2-1998, SEC.68; P.L.269-2001, SEC.22.

IC 25-23.6-8-10

Temporary permit; requirements; expiration; renewal

Sec. 10. (a) The board may issue a temporary permit to an individual to profess to be a marriage and family therapist if the individual pays a fee and the individual:

(1) has a valid license or certificate to practice from another state and the individual has applied for a license from the board;

(2) is practicing in a state that does not license or certify marriage and family therapists, but is certified by a national association approved by the board and the individual has applied for a license from the board; or

(3) has been approved by the board to take the examination and has graduated from a school or program approved by the board and the individual has completed any experience requirement.

(b) A temporary permit expires the earlier of:

(1) the date the individual holding the permit is issued a license under this article;

(2) the date the board disapproves the individual's license application; or

(3) one hundred eighty (180) days after the initial permit is issued.

(c) The board may renew a temporary permit if the individual holding the permit was scheduled to take the next examination and the individual:

(1) did not take the examination; and

(2) shows good cause for not taking the examination.

(d) A permit renewed under subsection (c) expires on the date the individual holding the permit receives the results from the next examination given after the permit was issued.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.147-1997, SEC.68.

IC 25-23.6-8-11

Notification of retirement from practice

Sec. 11. (a) An individual who is licensed under this article shall notify the board in writing when the individual retires from practice.

(b) Upon receipt of the notice, the board shall:

- (1) record the fact the individual is retired; and
- (2) release the individual from further payment of renewal fees and continuing education requirements.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.147-1997, SEC.69.

IC 25-23.6-8-12**Repealed**

(Repealed by P.L.33-1993, SEC.74.)

IC 25-23.6-8-13**Exemption from examination requirement**

Sec. 13. An individual who applies for a license under this article may be exempted by the board from the examination requirement under this chapter if the individual:

- (1) is licensed or certified to practice as a marriage and family therapist in another state; or
- (2) has engaged in the practice of marriage and family therapy for at least three (3) of the previous five (5) years;
- (3) has passed a licensing examination substantially equivalent to the licensing examination required under this article;
- (4) has passed an examination pertaining to the marriage and family therapy laws and rules of this state; and
- (5) has not committed any act or is not under investigation for any act that constitutes a violation of this article;

and is otherwise qualified under sections 1 and 2 of this chapter and pays an additional fee.

As added by P.L.186-1990, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.147-1997, SEC.70.

IC 25-23.6-8-14**Repealed**

(Repealed by P.L.33-1993, SEC.74.)